



# THE JOHNNY APPLESEED BROADCASTER

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## Presidents Message...Rodney J. Toth

As I write this message the temperature is hovering close to zero. It's a great time to 'pour over' the seed catalogues for the coming season. Before selecting seeds it is important to have some sort of plan or theme for your new garden. Then, check your old collection of seeds not only to see what you have that will fit into your plan, but also for the percentage of germination.

I've discovered that germinating seeds can have some unusual and varied requirements. Some need heat, such as the oven or a heat mat. Others need cold, such as the meat tray or the freezer in the refrigerator. Some need light or dark. Some need soaking or scarified. Whatever their need, it is often very important that we satisfy that need.

Once you have determined which seeds are available and viable you can continue your search thru the catalogues to fulfill your plan for a successful gardening season this year.

So it is with our Central Great Lakes Region. We are composed of several local clubs. The success of our season depends on each member. You are the seeds of the CGLR. You may have to put some members in the lunch tray or freezer in the refrigerator, or in the oven, in light, in dark, soak or scarify them.

Obviously we are not going to expose our members to these actions, but it is necessary to provide programs and events to meet their varied requirements. All of our members are seeds for the future. Hopefully, your planning and organization will enable your club as well as the CGLR to have a successful year. Let's plant **positive seeds not weeds.**

As part of your planning enter the events listed from page 6 in your personal appointment book.

All members are welcome and encouraged to attend these events. I am looking forward to sharing with you the above events and wish you and your club a great year!!! - Rodney

## CGLR SPRING MEETING

WHEN: SATURDAY, 10:00 AM APRIL 12, 2008  
WHERE: Kingwood Gardens Gatehouse,  
Mansfield, Ohio.

### MEETING AGENDA

10:00 AM - Business Meeting  
11:30 AM - Lunch  
1:00 PM - Presentation "Rock Gardening"

**DENNIS JAMES** our speaker has for 25 years been owner operator of DJ's Greenhouse located in Transfer, Pennsylvania. He grows a large selection of unusual plants that many nurserymen will not attempt. His display gardens include just about everything he sells.

Dennis will give us his basic overview and requirements of good rock gardening; complete with outstanding slides of plants in their native habitat and popular plants on the market today.

Try his website: [www.djsgreenhouse.com](http://www.djsgreenhouse.com)

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## CGLR RENEWS PUBLICATION



The legend of Johnny Appleseed is a lesson in commitment. John Chapman – his real name – gathered sacks of seed from a Pennsylvania cider mill and

broadcasted them throughout Ohio, Michigan and Indiana. Often returning to help nurture the saplings, he wanted to provide food for settlers as they traveled west.

We in the Central Great Lakes Region, despite its many benefits, seem to lack even a fraction of Mr. Chapman’s commitment. In addition to the poor attendance at our two yearly meetings, the most telling evidence of our taking the region for granted is the miserly budget from which it must function.

I wasn’t around when the regional dues of \$1.00 per member per year was initiated, but it has to be at least ten years ago. Wouldn’t it be nice if we were able to live today on prices of a decade ago?

One of the casualties of this under funding was the regional newsletter, The Johnny Appleseed Broadcaster, which can no longer be mailed to members due to the costs of printing and postage. The JAB will now be sent via Email to only club presidents and editors. They in turn are responsible for distribution to their club membership.

The reasons local organizations unite under regional and national banners are:

- ✓ A more powerful voice for your shared ideals and message.
- ✓ The exchange of more information over a wider area.
- ✓ More benefits for individual clubs and members.

There are two regional meetings and one conference each year. Attendance has been sparse

except for the 2007 Conference in Youngstown, Ohio. There is no reason the 2008 Conference this July in Wooster, Ohio should be less successful.

These meetings are the place where decisions affecting all the region’s clubs are discussed and voted upon. How would you feel knowing your elected official was not present during a crucial debate or vote on a matter directly affecting you and your family?

The Johnny Appleseed legend is a metaphor of American culture: Giving selflessly to others ultimately reaps benefits for you. Isn’t that what TGCO/MGCA is all about? The region needs your help and participation. We urge every club send representatives to **Voice Your Concerns**.

The seeds are planted, now help nurture the plants by traveling N – S – E- or W and meet us at this Spring Meeting on April 12 in Mansfield, Ohio.

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### JAB MISSION

Local and National newsletters, The American Horticulture Association publication, The Gardener and a plethora of other publications print articles pertaining to gardening and related subjects that are available to everyone.



The mission of this newsletter with its projected three issues per year is to inform regional members about what is happening within our region.

Included will be those subjects that may impact the members and member comments. Specific gardening articles if any, will be few.

You will read messages from your regional and national officers, Directors, Presidents and members of regional clubs and anyone else that can enhance those messages.

Several people are invited to write articles for the JAB. If you were not contacted, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have something of interest for the membership.

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*[Continued from Page 2]*

I am seeking and encourage the view of as many members that wish to contribute to the JAB.

Unfortunately for me, it is impossible to speak one on one with all of you, as I am able to do locally. But this does not mean that you cannot have your say or way - do yourself and your Regional Family a favor - say your piece. – Should we stay with the mission or change? Editor.

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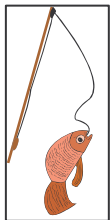
## **CGLR REMINISCENCES**

*By Bill Lanning – Findlay Club*

**W**hen Joe Alessi of the Youngstown club agreed to oversee the re-publication of the JAB and to become its editor, it started me to remembering the good times and fellow gardeners within the region that are new and lasting friends.

**Marlin Caris** came to mind as editor of the JAB for many years. He did not have a computer, but always got the job done.

The summer region meetings were always fun and there were reasons to remember them all. One year it turned very cold and there were no blankets in the dorm. Some people took down the drapes and used them to keep warm. Another year the dorm air conditioning didn't work and local people brought fans for the visitors.



Another memorable thing was the year at Lakeside. **Bill Moorehouse** was fishing off the pier at Lake Erie. He reeled in a rod and reel with a fish still on the hook. This is not a fish story!

Two things that have always been fun for me are meeting new people and all of the good food. It seems that each year, the new chair tries to outdo the year before.

**George Hoover** found ice cream at one summer conference and always had a dish of ice cream for

breakfast. George was Treasurer for both the Youngstown Club and the CGLR for many years.

**John Leonard** from Van Wert was known for his selling of Men's Garden Club apparel. He always brought many items to the conferences. He also wrote glowing recommendations for region awards and Van Wert always won their share. John was really involved in judging and judging schools.

**Ed Flynn** and **Ken Snyder** were two active members from Ft. Wayne that attended most meetings. It was always a long trip for them but they still felt the need to share and learn.

**Steve Matyi** from the Youngstown club was a fun-loving, loveable guy who always brought plants to share. How many of you have Voodoo bulbs from him? Steve used an older station wagon as a greenhouse and drove it to a couple of meetings.

We can't forget **Leno Laner**; the 'Gentle Giant' also from Youngstown as a good-hearted, loveable man who liked to ask questions in meetings.

One meeting at BGSU, the hit of the evening was **Dick Schweitzer** from the Findlay club and his Tom Thumb popcorn. People still ask if he raises it. (He does).

**Delbert Dunbar** from the Fulton County club was "The Gentleman" of the organization. He was a quiet leader who set an example for us all. It is an honor to be awarded The Delbert Dunbar Award at a conference.

**Bill Hill** from the Stow club is another true gentleman who is still active.

It would be easy to write pages about all the fun people in the region, but space is important. Now would be an excellent time to encourage each member to attend region meetings and create memories of your own. **Bill**

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### *FRIENDS - THE LIFEBLOOD OF LIFE!*

*We're never too old to make new friends.  
We'll tell our tales and listen to theirs.  
And keep in touch with our old ones!*



## **SEEKING NEW DIRECTOR**

**W**ith the appointment of Hugh Earnhart to the office of the National Third Vice President, the position he held as Director is now vacant. A yet to be named appointee will serve the remaining three-year term.

Members filling this vacancy must be willing to attend district meetings, national meetings and also mentor local clubs within the region. You should have people skills and an interest in seeing the district prosper. Contact any of the following for any questions, nomination or if seeking the office.

Hugh G. Earnhart, 2935 Red Maple Lane, Poland, Oh 44514 – Phone: 330-757-4727 – [gowie55@aol.com](mailto:gowie55@aol.com).

Bill Carney, 2984 Algonquin Drive, Poland, Oh 44514 – Phone: 330-757-9207 – [wjcarney@juno.com](mailto:wjcarney@juno.com).

Dale Davies, PO B0x 524, Van Wert, Oh 45891 Phone: 419 238-9351 – [lhenney@bright.net](mailto:lhenney@bright.net).

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### **\*\*\*AWARD NOMINATIONS\*\*\***

The CGLR Awards Committee is requesting every club to participate in the awards program.

There are many members deserving of these awards. Only with your recommendations can we hope to learn of those that deserve to receive an award. We need every one of you to help us honor them by nominating them for an award.

The following are once in a lifetime awards: *The Master Gardener Award*, (two MGA may be awarded each year), *The Green Bronze Medal* and *The Delbert R. Dunbar Award*

Any number of the following awards may be presented each year: *Horticulture Achievement*, *Horticulture Journalism*, *Certificate of Honor*,

*Environmental Conservation Achievement and the Spark Plug Award.*

Awards will be presented at the CGLR. 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Saturday July 26, 2008. The conference is open to all CGLR Club members. **Please encourage members to attend with you.**

The deadline for submitting your nominations is, April 12, 2008. This is to give the Awards Committee time to select winners, order and prepare the awards.

Criteria and a list of past award recipients are listed on CGLR web site <http://www.acorn.net/cglr> under region meetings – special important notice – Submission Details and Instructions.

Please E-mail or mail nominations and supporting data to all the committee members listed below or bring nominations and data to the C.G.L.R. meeting at Kingwood Garden in Mansfield on, April 12, 2008.

Chairman, Rodney Toth, 5637 W. Liberty Street Hubbard, Oh 44425 – Phone: 330-759-1993 [rkdahlias@aol.com](mailto:rkdahlias@aol.com)

Robert Campbell, 2712 Oxford Drive, Findlay, Oh 45840 - Phone: 419-420-3661 - [rjean@wcnet.org](mailto:rjean@wcnet.org)

Gerry Herman, 2139 Maple Road, Stow, Oh 44224 Phone: 330-688-5782 - [ga71herman@yahoo.com](mailto:ga71herman@yahoo.com)

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## **GARDENING IS GREAT IN 2008**

**A**re you interested in learning more about gardening and having a good time too? Have you ever been to the National Convention? Well now it's practically in your own back yard and reaching out to you June 12 - 14!

This year the Fort Wayne Club in our Central Region is hosting it with only a \$198 registration fee and a \$79 per night room rate. Both are easy on the pocketbook. WOW! That's a great deal.

Registration information is on the national web site at [www.tgoa-mgca.org](http://www.tgoa-mgca.org). Do it now! *John Kessen*

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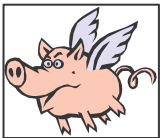




## CARE - COMMIT- CONTRIBUTE!

By Joseph Alessi Jr., Youngstown Club

**C**ommit – it brings to mind the story of the chicken and the pig concerning breakfast. While neither cares if we have breakfast, each is contributing. The chicken, for her egg, a day’s work, but the pig, for his bacon, a “total commitment”!



We’re not asking for a “total commitment”, it’s similar but revealed in a very broad sense. To contribute to our growth each must care and be committed to giving their best personal effort to help that growth.

Realizing that some members have a negative mindset and could give a hoot if we grow or not – they just don’t seem to care. But we still need them as examples of good gardeners, committee members and project volunteers.

However, *caring* about your club and keeping it around for those gardeners yet unborn, requires us to *contribute* to its growth by being *committed* to maintaining a positive mindset.

The example and teamwork displayed by the membership will show your invited guest what to expect. The result could be a *caring, committed and contributing* member for many years.

Both you and I are here today because some member way back when, brought in a member who brought in a member and kept the line going until the member who brought us aboard. Just one member that you recruit today may overtime, be responsible for hundreds of new members.

Remain positive! Start clucking and oink like the chicken and the pig, then if you *care*, make your personal



*commitment* to *contribute* to the growth of your local club and in so doing **HELP US GROW BOTH REGIONALLY AND NATIONALLY!**

## SMILE AND CHUCKLE

St. Peter asked the man at the Pearly Gates. "What great thing of merit have you done?"

"Well, I can think of one thing", the man offered. "On a recent trip, a gang of bikers was threatening a young woman. I warned them to leave her alone, but they did not."

"So, I approached the largest and most heavily tattooed biker and smacked him in the face, kicked his bike over, ripped out his nose ring and yelled, for him to back off NOW, or I'll knock you from here to next Sunday."

St. Peter was impressed, "When did this happen?"

" Couple of minutes ago."



Several officers from the National and CGLR clubs chose simply to ignore repeated E-mail invitations to write an article for this newsletter, They failed to give us the courtesy of a reply saying they would not contribute. Maybe replies we'll fare better for later issues.

On the other hand, several of you did take up the pen or qwerty to give us your thoughts. You answered the call with articles, and news for this first issue. Thanks to each of you for caring, committing and contributing your thoughts, time and talents.

It's critical that a newsletter does not become a one-person show that could deteriorate once again to be discontinued.

\*Title translation: "This Space Was Yours!"

## CENTRAL GREAT LAKES REGION MEETINGS AND CONFERENCE DATE

**Regional Meeting – Saturday – April 12, 2008 10:00 AM – Kingwood Gardens, Mansfield, Ohio 330-759-1993**

Regional Conference – Saturday – July 26, 2008 Agriculture Technical Institute, Wooster, Ohio – 330-799-6046

Regional Meeting – Saturday – October 11, 2008 10:AM – Kingwood Gardens, Mansfield, Ohio 330-759-1993

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### 2008 OFFICERS

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### NATIONAL DIRECTORS – 3

Office Vacant  
See page four  
for details.

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Contact Joseph Alessi Jr., Editor – 330-792-4355 – [alessijoepat@juno.com](mailto:alessijoepat@juno.com) concerning this publication or how you too can be a part of the CGLR of garden clubs. National Web – [www.tgoa-mgca.org](http://www.tgoa-mgca.org) - Regional Web – [www.acorn.net/CGLR/](http://www.acorn.net/CGLR/)

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Central Great Lakes Region  
Joseph Alessi Jr., Editor  
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### Region Family of Clubs

**Indiana** – Fort Wayne - 260-854-2988

**Michigan**- Maple City – 517-264-5617

#### **Ohio**

Akron – 330-336-9336

Bluffton-Pandora – 419-659-5638

Cleveland – 440-247-5317

Cuyahoga Falls – 330-928-3114

Erie County – 419-625-1874

Findlay – 419-420-3661

Lima – 419-991-6396

St. Mary's – 419-586-8912

Stow – 330-633-9183

Van Wert – 419-238-9351

Youngstown – 330-792-4355